BILL: S2018-SB16
TITLE: Bylaws Reform
SPONSOR: Jin Sohn, President
DATE: April 22, 2018

**Whereas** President Sohn has found a better alternative for certain clauses, committees, and cabinet positions,

**Whereas** some of these clauses are out of date,

**Whereas** consistency in language and practice is important,

**Whereas** certain clauses need clarification,

**Whereas** previously passed bylaws amendments were not updated to the official Bylaws,

**Whereas** S2017-SB9 does not take into account students with study abroad plans who are seeking a Commons senator position,

**Whereas** there are no class specific events during sophomore and junior year;

**Whereas** the Sophomore Class and the Junior Class would benefit from hosting events that promote class unity;

**Therefore, let the following be enacted…**

That, the **Contents page** be renumbered accordingly to match the amendments as follows:


"Section I. President and Co-Chair 2
II. Senators 2
III. The Presidential Cabinet 2
IV. SGA Representatives to College Bodies 6
V. Standing Committees 6
VI. Elections 17
VII. Finance and Constitution Appeals 20
VIII. Impeachment 21
IX. Faculty and Staff Appreciation Awards 22."


That, a new section, **Section II titled Senators (A) Feb Senators** be added.

That, **under Section II (A)** the following statement be added: "Should a sitting Feb senator win reelection for an additional term, they may remain in current elected and appointed roles, including Speaker and committee positions for the remainder of the academic year."

That, **Section III The Presidential Cabinet** the following statement be edited to this: "The following officers are members of the Presidential Cabinet. Once elected, the President must send out an all-student email informing students of the Cabinet positions available and asking for nominations. Cabinet officers are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate."

That, **under Section III (F) Director of Institutional Affairs** shall read as follows: "The Director of Institutional Affairs oversees all services provided by the SA including hiring, monitoring, and approving pays of all SGA paid student positions. The Director serves as a liaison between the SGA and the Facilities Services Office. The Director also works with various College offices, students, and fellow members of the SGA to facilitate infrastructural and programmatic improvements."

That, **under Section III (H) Director of Communications** shall read as follows: "The Director of Communications is responsible for SGA communications with the student body and chairs the Communications Committee. The Director of Communications is responsible for executing all visibility campaigns for SGA initiatives, updating college bulletin boards used by the SGA and updating weekly the official SGA website (Archives, This Week sections), and managing all social media channels operated by the SGA.

That **Publicity be renamed Communications**, this change will take place throughout the Bylaws and Constitution.

That, **Section IV. SGA Representatives to College Bodie**s shall be revisited once the Trusteeship and Governance Group has decided on the expansion of the SLSEA to the other Board of Trustees Committees.

That, under **Section IV (A) (3)** shall read as follows: "The SLSEA shall publicize and send an email to the student body via the SGA email address, at least one week prior to each Board of Trustees meeting, to gather student input and educate the community on the current state of the endowment."

That, under **Section V (A) (1) (c)** shall read as follows: "The committee shall hear requests from individual hosts of social parties for damage reimbursements greater than the automatic reimbursement limit established by the Senate."

That, under **Section V (A) (4) (b)** shall read as follows:
"(b) Membership
(i) The committee shall consist of the President and four Senators appointed jointly by the President and the Director of Membership.
(ii) One Senator, from the Awards Committee, shall be appointed to chair this committee.
(iii) The Dean of the Faculty may attend committee deliberations."

That, under **Section V (A) (5)** First Year be renamed First-Year, this change will take place throughout the Bylaws and Constitution.

That, under **Section V (A)**, a new section (6) Sophomore Committee and (7) Junior Committee be added.

That, under **Section V (A) (6)** shall read as follows:
"(6) Sophomore Committee
(a) Description and responsibilities
The Sophomore Committee promotes community in the sophomore class, provides a vehicle for addressing sophomore student concerns, assists in the promotion of campus resources and works with event planning bodies, Commons staff, and residential life staff in enhancing inclusive social and cultural experiences on campus.
(b) Membership
(i) The two sophomore senators shall chair the committee.
(ii) The two sophomore senators shall jointly appoint members of the committee."
That, under **Section V (A) (7)** shall read as follows:
"(7) Junior Committee
(a) Description and responsibilities
The Junior Committee promotes community in the junior class, provides a vehicle for addressing junior student concerns, assists in the promotion of campus resources and works with event planning bodies, Commons staff, and residential life staff in enhancing inclusive social and cultural experiences on campus.
(b) Membership
(i) The two junior senators shall chair the committee.
(ii) The two junior senators shall jointly appoint members of the committee."

That, under **Section V (A) after (7)**, the following statements be added to the end: "That senior senators are participatory members on the Senior Committee to better serve their constituents." and "A senator's membership in either the First-Year, Sophomore, or Junior committee does not count towards the limit of three standings committees that a senator is allowed to be a member of."

That, under **Section V (B) (2) (b) (vi)** shall read as follows: "The committee recommends each year to Senate the proposed following year's Student Activities Fee."

That, under **Section V (B) (2) (iv)** Submission of mid-year and end-of-year report shall be renumbered as (e) Submission of mid-year and end-of-year report and subsequently as (i), (ii), (iii), (iv).

That, under **Section V (B) (3) (c) (ii) (A)** shall read as follows: "All student organizations will be reviewed after two years, on a rotating basis. Student organizations will be notified that they are up for review on or by the end of Week 4."

That, under **Section V (B) (4) - (10) each (a)** shall include along with pre-existing descriptions as follows: "The Committee shall meet with the college administrator main point of contact at the time on a monthly basis to check-in and to provide student feedback regarding ongoing and future initiatives. The college administrator main point of contact shall be determined by the SGA President."

That, under **Section V (B) (4) (a)** shall read as follows: "The Communications Committee shall publicize all SGA activity, and be responsible for keeping all records of

the SGA (both digital and physical). The Committee shall maintain and update weekly all social media outlets and the SGA website. The Committee shall meet with the college administrator main point of contact at the time on a monthly basis to check-in and to provide student feedback regarding ongoing and future initiatives. The college administrator main point of contact shall be determined by the SGA President."

That, under **Section V (B) (6) (a)** shall read as follows: "The Institutional Diversity Committee shall consider and discuss matters related to diversity issues within the student community. The Committee shall meet with the college administrator main point of contact at the time on a monthly basis to check-in and to provide student feedback regarding ongoing and future initiatives. The college administrator main point of contact shall be determined by the SGA President." and thus omit: "The committee shall also make proposals to the administration and trustees."

That, under **Section V (B) (7) (a)** shall read as follows: "The Student Health and Wellness Committee shall consider and discuss matters related to student health, stress, well-being, and wellness issues within the student community. The committee shall work closely with the Office of Health and Wellness as well as have a representative on the Wellness Committee. The Committee shall meet with the college administrator main point of contact at the time on a monthly basis to check-in and to provide student feedback regarding ongoing and future initiatives. The college administrator main point of contact shall be determined by the SGA President." and thus omit: "The committee shall also make proposals to the administration and trustees."

That, under **Section V (B) (8) (a)** shall read as follows: "The Environmental Affairs Committee shall have oversight of all SGA activity pertaining to environmental initiatives. The Committee shall work with relevant bodies on campus regarding environmental initiatives. The Committee shall meet with the college administrator main point of contact at the time on a monthly basis to check-in and to provide student feedback regarding ongoing and future initiatives. The college administrator main point of contact shall be determined by the SGA President."

That, under **Section V (B) (9) (a)** shall read as follows: "The Athletic Affairs Committee shall serve as the liaison between the SGA and Middlebury athletics. The Committee shall continue to lead Panther Pride efforts. The Committee shall meet with the college administrator main point of contact at the time on a monthly basis to check-in and to provide student feedback regarding ongoing and future initiatives. The college administrator main point of contact shall be determined by the SGA President."

That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (1) (a) - (d)** shall include as follows: "students on approved off-campus medical leave."

That, under **Section (VI) (B) (1) (a)** shall read as follows: "For the President, the Co-Chair, and referendums: all current and enrolled students, including students abroad, students on approved off-campus medical leave, and graduating seniors."

That, under **Section (VI) (B) (1) (b)** shall read as follows: "For Commons senators: all current and enrolled students, including students abroad, students on approved off-campus medical leave, and graduating seniors, who are members of the relevant Commons."

That, under **Section (VI) (B) (1) (c)** shall read as follows: "For class senators: all current

and enrolled students, including students abroad and students on approved off-campus medical leave who have academic standing in the relevant class, not including Febs."
That, under **Section (VI) (B) (1) (d)** shall read as follows: "For Feb senators: all current and enrolled students, including students abroad and students on approved off-campus medical leave who have academic standing in a Feb class."

That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (2) (a), (b), (c), (d), and (f)** shall accordingly include as follows: "students on approved off-campus medical leave." or either "or be on approved off-campus medical leave."

That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (2) (a)** shall read as follows: "For the President: All current and enrolled students, including students abroad and students on approved off-campus medical leave but excluding graduating seniors. This is a full year position. The President's term shall expire at the end of the academic year."
That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (2) (b)** shall read as follows: "For the Co-Chair: all current and enrolled students, including students abroad and students on approved off-campus medical leave but excluding graduating seniors. Students are not eligible to be candidates for semesters during which they plan to study off-campus or be on approved off-campus medical leave."
That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (2) (c)** shall read as follows: "For Commons senators: all current and enrolled students, including students abroad and students on approved off-campus medical leave but excluding graduating seniors, who are members of the relevant Commons. This is a semester basis position. Commons senators' terms shall expire at the end of the semester."
That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (2) (d)** shall read as follows: "For first year, sophomore, and senior senators: all current and enrolled students, including students abroad and students on approved off-campus medical leave but excluding graduating seniors, who have academic standing in the relevant class, not including Febs. This is a full year position. First year, sophomore, and senior senators' terms shall expire at the end of the academic year."
That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (2) (e)** shall read as follows: "For junior senators: students shall run and hold office on a semester basis. Students may run for either semester or both. Students are not eligible to be candidates for semesters during which they plan to study off-campus or be on on approved off-campus medical leave."
That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (2) (f)** shall read as follows: "For Feb senators: all current and enrolled students, including students abroad and students on approved off-campus medical leave but excluding graduating seniors, who have academic standing in a Feb class. This is a full year position. Feb senators' terms shall expire end of the Senate meeting immediately prior to the Feb election."

That, under **Section (VI) (4) (B) (2) (c)**, Commons senators positions will be on a semester basis. And therefore shall read as follows: "For Commons senators: all current and enrolled students, including students abroad and students on approved off-campus medical leave but excluding graduating seniors, who are members of the relevant Commons. This is a semester basis position. Commons senators' terms shall expire at the end of the semester."

That, under **Section (VII) (B)** Appeals Process, amendments are made in light of a request for appeals from Fall 2017.

Thus **Section (VII) (B) (1)** shall read as follows: "A group of students or a student organization that is dissatisfied with decisions made by the Finance or Student Organizations Oversight Committee has the right to appeal to the SGA President within five class days of receipt of the original decision. A class day is defined as a day Monday-Friday during the academic calendar in which classes are actively session (i.e not Winter Carnival). A class day does not include the week(s) of final examinations. This definition is to be followed whenever a class day is mentioned in the SGA Constitution and Bylaws."

That, under **Section (VII) (B) (3)** shall read as follows: "Two Appeals Committee members shall review the appeal and shall make a recommendation to the full committee on the appropriate course of action. At least three of the five committee members must agree on the course of action. Committee members may choose among the following options:

(a) Open up the appeal for an official hearing.

(b) Deny the appeal on stipulated grounds."

That, under **Section (VII) (B) (4)** shall read as follows: "If the matter is granted appeal an official hearing, the written grievance will be forwarded to the parties involved. This written grievance will include the date, time, and location of the hearing, which will occur no sooner than five class days and no later than 15 class days following the formal filing of complaint. The parties involved may reschedule the hearing only one time."

That, under **Section (VII) (B) (5)** shall read as follows: "The appeals hearing should include all members of the Appeals Committee, the head of the Student Organization Oversight Committee and/or Finance Committee, the official SGA minutes taker (Secretary), and the dissatisfied student(s)/student organization. The appeals hearing shall be open to the public unless otherwise requested by the dissatisfied student(s)/student organization."

That, under **Section (VII) (B) (6)** shall read as follows: "The appeals hearing should have a format as follows:

1. "Introductions
2. Student Organization Oversight Committee/Finance Committee statement
3. Appealing Party Statement
4. Responses from Student Organization Oversight Committee/Finance Committee
5. Responses from Appealing Party
6. Questions and Answers from the Appeals Committee
7. Final Remarks from both sides
8. Private Deliberations between Appeals Committee."

That, under **Section (VII) (B) (7)** shall read as follows: "The Appeals Committee must vote and notify the parties involved of its decision within the 24-hour period of one school day."

That, under **Section (IX) (A) (4)** shall read as follows: "The Awards Committee (consisting of Chief(s) of Staff, Senior Senators, Junior Senators, and other interested

Senators) shall review all nominations and select a recipient."

That, under **Section (IX) (B) (4)** shall read as follows: "The Awards Committee (consisting of Chief of Staff(s), Senior Senators, Junior Senators, and other interested Senators) shall review all nominations and select a recipient."

Respectfully submitted,

Jin Sohn, President
Rae Aaron, Feb Senator, Speaker of the Senate
Jack Goldfield, Sophomore Senator
John Gosselin, Awater Commons Senator
Hannah Pustejovsky, Senior Senator
John Schurer, First-Year Senator

Vote Count
In Favor:
Opposed:
Abstained:
Absent